



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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**FEDERAL PRISON SENTENCES HANDED DOWN IN
SAN ANTONIO CITY HALL CORRUPTION CASE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Juan Peña, John Sanders, Jack Pytel, and Enrique "Kike" Martin were sentenced to federal prison by United States District Judge Royal Ferguson for their roles in a public corruption case. Defendants Juan Peña and Jack Pytel conspired with former San Antonio City councilmen Enrique "Kike" Martin and John Sanders in a bribery scheme that centered on a 2002 City of San Antonio contract to collect unpaid fines and fees.

"By giving and taking bribes for votes on a public contract, these men betrayed the trust of San Antonio voters," stated U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton. "The citizens of San Antonio are entitled to honesty and integrity from their elected officials and those who appear before them. These politicians and lawyers have fully earned the prison terms they will begin serving."

Juan Peña, formerly with the Edinburgh office of the law firm of Heard, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Pena & Sampson (also known as Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Pena & Sampson) was sentenced to thirty (30) months imprisonment followed by three years of supervised release. In addition, he was ordered to pay a \$1 million fine. On September 15, 2004, he pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery and one count of bank fraud. In addition to participating in the bribery conspiracy, Peña also guaranteed a \$25,000 bank loan from Lone Star National Bank to co-defendant Jack Pytel, knowing that the credit application submitted in support of that loan was materially false and a portion of the proceeds were to be used to complete payments to councilmen Martin and Sanders.

Former City Councilman John Sanders was sentenced to fifteen (15) months imprisonment followed by two years of supervised release. On August 26, 2004, he pled guilty to one count of bribery. Sanders accepted \$2,500 cash in exchange for changing his vote supporting the Municipal Services Bureau, Inc., bid to a vote supporting the bid of the law firm of Heard, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Pena & Sampson.

Former City Councilman Kike Martin was sentenced to thirteen (13) months imprisonment followed by two years of supervised release. On August 24, 2004, he pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery. Martin accepted cash payments in return for his vote supporting the Heard, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Peña & Sampson bid on the fines and fees contract. He also helped arrange a meeting with Councilman Sanders, knowing that the purpose of that meeting was to offer Sanders a bribe in return for his vote for the Heard, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Peña & Sampson bid. Martin understood that the purpose of his agreement with the others was to corruptly influence the business of the City of San Antonio.

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Jack Pytel, a San Antonio lawyer, was sentenced to nine (9) months imprisonment followed by 2 years of supervised release. On September 9, 2004, he pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery as well as a substantive bribery charge. Pytel admitted to paying Martin \$5,000 to vote for the Heard, Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, Peña & Sampson bid and to secure Sanders' vote for the bid.

“Unfortunately, it was necessary that our criminal justice system deal with the betrayal of the public trust demonstrated by these officials. Public corruption investigations and prosecutions are absolutely necessary to sustain the public’s confidence and trust in our government. No one is above the law,” stated Patrick A. Patterson, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, San Antonio Division.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Texas. Assistant United States Attorney Charles Jenkins and David Counts prosecuted this case on behalf of the government.

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